



**BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1968

BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

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Dr. J. McPherson Robertson, M.B.,
CH.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

J. R. Swift, M.A.P.H.I.

BILLINGE-AND-WINSTANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,

BILLINGE,

Near Wigan

To the Chairman and Members,
Billinge-and-Winstanley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure of submitting to you the Annual Report for the health of the District for the year 1968, compiled in the form indicated by the Ministry of Health.

I take this opportunity of tendering my best thanks to the Officials of the Council, the Staff of the Public Health Department, and especially to the Public Health Inspector, for valuable help and co-operation at all times.

I desire to express also to the Members of the Council my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration they have always displayed towards me.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. H. McPherson Robertson,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	4596
Number of inhabited houses at end of the year according to the rate book (estimated)	3636
Rateable Value	£321,864
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,198
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population mid 1968	10,140

Billinge and Winstanley is a pleasant Urban District situated midway between Wigan and St. Helens.

The main industries of the area are long-standing and include farming, stone quarrying, brick and terra cotta manufacture and some coal-mining.

The Billinge Hospital, one of the largest hospitals in the Wigan and Leigh Hospital Management Committee Area, is situated in the Higher End Ward of the district and employs a considerable amount of local female labour.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	130	119	249
Illegitimate	2	-	2

The live birth rates per 1,000 of estimated home population mid-1968 are -

Crude rate	24.8
Adjusted rate	18.4
Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to National rate	1.09
Area comparability factor	0.74

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 of total births is 8

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	58	59	117

The mortality rates per 1,000 of estimated home population are -

Crude rate	11.5
Adjusted rate	13.8
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to National rate	1.16
Area comparability factor.	1.20
Respiratory Tuberculosis	NIL
Malignant Neoplasms (cancer)	2.17
Maternal mortality	NIL

INFANT MORTALITY

	Males			Females		
	Total	Legit	Illegit	Total	Legit	Illegit
Under 1 year of age	3	3	-	1	1	-
Under 4 weeks of age	2	2	-	-	-	-
Under 1 week of age	2	2	-	-	-	-

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age rate per 1,000 of live births 16

Perinatal rate per 1,000 of total births 16

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

IN RESPECT OF THE YEARS 1966 - 1967 - 1968

Year	Live Births	Deaths	Still Births	Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality				
				Total	Neo-Natal					
	Number Registered	Rate per 1000 pop. Crude Rate	Number registered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	Number of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1000 total Births	Number of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1000 Live Births		
1966	234	24.7	116	12.4 crude 12.0 adj.	3	12.8	Nil	Nil	3	12.8
1967	230	23.9	105	10.9 crude 12.9 adj.	7	30	Nil	Nil	4	17
1968	251	24.8	117	11.5 crude 13.8 adj.	2	8	Nil	Nil	4	16

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulance facilities are provided by the County Council and the Ambulance Station which serves this district and the neighbouring authorities is situated in the Higher End area of the district in close proximity to the hospital.

During the year the service has proved satisfactory.

Home Nursing

Under the provision of the National Health Service Act 1946, home nursing facilities are provided by the Lancashire County Council.

HOSPITALS AND OTHER FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN THE DISTRICT

Hospitals

Situated in the Northern end of the district is Billinge Hospital. This is one of the largest hospitals in the North West.

During the year considerable re-building and extension work was carried out and the new Maternity Unit was opened.

There is a total of 510 beds and specialities at the hospital include Maternity, Gynaecological, Dental, General Surgical, Plastic Surgery, General Medicine, Psychiatric and Orthopedic.

Hospitals are available at Manchester and Liverpool for special cases. Infectious cases requiring isolation are usually cared for at the Whelley Hospital, Wigan.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

An anti-natal clinic is available at Billinge Hospital for this and the adjoining districts.

A modern welfare clinic which was built during 1966 is situated in Rainford Road. This clinic is very well attended especially by the families in the Chapel End of the district.

Generally, families in the Higher End part of the district attend The Orrell clinic and those in the Pemberton Road area attend the clinic at Highfield, Wigan.

Laboratory Facilities

Laboratories of the Public Health Laboratories Service are situated at Withington Hospital, Manchester and Wigan Infirmary, Wigan for Bacteriological and Pathological specimens.

Samples and specimens for chemical analysis are submitted to the County Analyst, Lancashire County Council, Preston.

These facilities have proved quite adequate and satisfactory.

Prevailance and Control of Infectious Diseases

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year

Except for 124 cases of measles which occurred, the district has been comparatively free from notifiable diseases during the year.

The following is a list of Notifiable Diseases during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Total cases at all ages	Total Cases Notified								
		AGE PERIODS - YEARS								
		0-	1-	2 -	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 & over
Measles (excluding Rubella)	124	3	14	32	31	16	26	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

A family consisting of husband and wife were contacts in an outbreak of Salmonella virchow from the consumption of infected chicken that occurred in Liverpool. No illness resulted in this family, although the organism was isolated from the woman and her baby daughter.

Tuberculosis

The County Council are responsible for the prevention and after-care of cases of Tuberculosis. Diagnosis and treatment is carried out by the specialist chest physision of the Regional Hospital Board and by general practitioners.

All cases of Tuberculosis from the Billinge-and-Winstanley Urban District attend the Chest Clinic, Millgate, Wigan.

One case of Respiratory Tuberculosis was notified during the year compared with 4 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis and 1 case on Non-Respiratory last year.

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The following figures show the number of children in the area who were vaccinated and immunised during the year -

Children Protected Against:--	Primary		Re-inforcement	
	0-4	5-15	0-4	5-15
Diphtheria	208	6	8	331
Whooping Cough	206	-	5	-
Tetanus	210	8	8	329
Polionyelitis	196	7	7	180
Measles	75	46	-	-
Smallpox	93	6	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1968

Cause of Death	Sex	Total	Under	4	Age in Years.									
		all	4	weeks	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over	
		Ages	weeks	& under 1 year										
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Leukaemia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	
Diabetes Mellitus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mental Disorders	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Hypertensive Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	8	
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	5	
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	4	
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	
	F	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peptic Ulcer	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Congenital Anomalies	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1968

Continued

Cause of Death	Sex	Age in Years											
		Total Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suicide and Self- Inflicted Injuries	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
All Other External Causes	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	58	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	12	16	23
	F	59	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	6	4	18	27

WATER

The Statutory Water Undertakers for the area are the St. Helens Water Board who are responsible for ensuring that the district is supplied with a sufficient and wholesome water supply

The water supply is from several sources and the main part of the district is supplied with water from Rivington and the extreme northern end of the district receives its supply from the Makerfield Water Board. Generally, throughout the area the supply has been satisfactory in both quantity and quality, although a few unharshful taste complaints were received from consumers whose water was predominantly of the Liverpool's Rivington Aqueduct source of supply. The Liverpool Corporation Water Department have now installed a new treatment plant which appears to have resolved the problem.

Six samples of water were taken by the Public Health Inspector for bacteriological examination, all were reported as satisfactory.

The flouride content of the water is below .3 parts per million.

The Water Boards first stage of their capital works programme for the Billinge Area was completed during the year. This was the construction of a one million gallon Reservoir at the top of Crank Road with 12" diameter Trunk Distribution Main - Crank Road, 8" and 6" diameter Distribution Mains - Beacon Road. The reservoir and mains came into operation and complaints of poor water pressure in these areas have now been corrected.

In addition 295 yards of 4" new water main has been laid to private development to a site off Pemberton Road and 132 yards of 3" and 248 yds. of 4" new water main have been laid to a building site off Birchley Road.

The above information has kindly been supplied by -

Mr. E. K. Astin, C.Eng., M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E.,
Water Engineer,
County Borough of St. Helens.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Main drainage is provided for the whole of the District with the exception of the Harlet of Kings Moss and some isolated areas.

The Council have two Sewage Disposal Works and these are situated -

- (a) Chapel End Works - which serves the southern area of the district known as Chapel End
- (b) Higher End Works - which serves the northern area of the district known as Higher End.

Pemberton Road in the Winstanley part of the district discharges into the Wigan Corporation Sewer and part of the northern end of Upholland Road discharges into the Skelmersdale and Holland U.D.C. main sewer, for ultimate treatment at the Hosker Sewage Works of Wigan Borough Council.

Chapel End Works

This is a modern plant which was constructed in 1958 and consists of detritus channels, pyramidal upward flow settling tanks, percolating filters and humus tanks together with storm tank and sludge beds.

Chapel End Works continued...

The original works were designed for a population of 4,000 with a water consumption of 30 gallons per head. For the past few years these works have been grossly overloaded due to increased population, increased water consumption and vast quantities of surface water and infiltrated water conveyed by the drainage system.

The works were designed for a daily dry weather flow of 124,000 gallons; the estimated daily dry weather flow was 190,000 gallons.

A scheme for the extension of the Chapel End Sewage Works and provision of a new sewer in the Chapel End Area has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry. The scheme has been proved in principle and it is hoped that a start may soon be made on this most essential project during the ensuing year.

Higher End Works

This modern Sewage Works was completed in 1959 and comprises detritus tanks, sedimentation tanks, percolating filters and humus tanks.

The works were intended to serve a population of 3,500 based on a water consumption of 30 gallons per head per day and also to serve Billinge Hospital.

The works were designed for a dry weather flow of 160,000 gallons per day and since the works were completed the population has considerably increased. Billinge Hospital has been considerably enlarged and a new grammar school erected. The water consumption per head per day has also increased.

These have resulted in the works being grossly overloaded and it is necessary that the Council consider substantially increasing the size of these works.

Notwithstanding the overloaded condition of both works, the works generally have been well maintained, although at the Chapel End Works the final effluent has been consistently below the River Authorities consent standard.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION EXISTING AT THE END OF 1968

Number of dwellings on the water carriage system	3,608
Number of dwellings not on the water carriage system	28
Number of fresh water closets	4,200 approx.
Number of movable dustbins	4,300
Number of pail closets	4
Number of privy middens	28
Number of closets attached to privy middens	32

During the year three privy closets were converted to fresh water closets and three dwelling houses were provided with dustbins in lieu of a fixed receptacle.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Public Health Inspector is responsible for the supervision of Public Cleansing which includes refuse collection and disposal.

The refuse collection service employs 12 men including 2 drivers and the foreman. There are 2 refuse collection vehicles:-

- (a) One 18 cubic yard Dual Tip Karrier which is 8 years old. This has been found to be a very satisfactory type of vehicle and especially useful for the conveyance of bulky items of refuse.
- (b) One Dennis Paxit Compression Vehicle. This vehicle was purchased in 1966. It gives a far greater compaction of refuse and is found to be very economical especially for the outlying districts where the length of haulage is great.

A weekly servicing of vehicles is carried out by the drivers and at three monthly intervals each vehicle is serviced and checked at the local garage.

Throughout the whole year there has been a weekly collection of refuse of all premises except for the odd lapse or slight delay due to the holiday period and sickness. The larger shops and the hospital have a twice or thrice weekly service as is required.

The normal method of storage of refuse by the householder is the galvanised iron bin which is supplied and maintained by the owner or occupier. On request the Council sell bins to householders a small stock being maintained.

There is a free collection disposal service for bulky items of refuse and also a free disposal service for garden refuse. This service is much appreciated by the householders. For a small nominal charge the Council also remove limited quantities of builders rubbish.

Facilities are available for the free disposal of unwanted motor vehicles at a breakers yard in St. Helens. Owners of unwanted vehicles are given the name and address of a local contractor who removes vehicles free of charge or for a small nominal charge.

TRADE REFUSE

The Council have undertaken to remove trade refuse from all shops within the district and a charge is made for the service.

A service of not less frequently than once per week is carried out. Several of the shops have twice or thrice weekly collections. This is especially desirable in the case of the larger Supermarkets which have been opened in the area.

The Council do not salvage material such as waste paper it being considered uneconomical.

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

Disposal of refuse is by controlled tipping. The Council are fortunate in having at their disposal a large disused quarry which the Council purchased during 1966.

In addition to house refuse sludge from the Sewerage Works is also disposed of at the Tip.

Under a five year contract which commenced at April, 1967 the Council also dispose of refuse from Orrell Urban District Council.

Levelling and maintenance of the Tip is carried out by a private contractor who is employed $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours each day and the tip generally has been satisfactorily maintained. There is available adequate soil for the covering of the refuse at the close of each working day.

It is considered that the Council have adequate tipping facilities for themselves for several years.

CIVIL AMENITIES ACT 1967

Part III of the Act which deals with the unauthorised dumping of rubbish and abandonment of motor vehicles came into force 27th July, 1967. The unauthorised dumping of rubbish in the district continues to be a problem.

It would appear that most of the culprits are from outside the district, the Council themselves providing adequate facilities for their own residents.

One abandoned vehicle was disposed of by the Council under the Act.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

Rodent Control

One part-time operator is employed on rodent and pest control.

There is a free disinfestation service operating for all private premises.

A nominal charge is made for the treatment of all business premises. For farms an annual contract service is in operation.

Regular and systematic inspections are made of the Council sewerage works and refuse tip. All public sewers are baited and treated twice yearly in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food recommendations. There was no evidence of the presence of rats in the sewerage system.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND TREATMENTS RE. RODENT CONTROL

	<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
Number of properties in district	3,740	46
Number of properties inspected following notification	181	14
Number of properties inspected for reasons other than notification	34	20
Number of properties infested by rats	78	16
Number of properties infested by mice	35	6

Free disinfestation of cockroaches and similar insects is carried out at Council houses. For private houses a small nominal charge is made.

During the year twelve houses were disinfested, the principle pests were ants and cockroaches. No infestations of bed bugs were discovered during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Six complaints were received of nuisances from watercourses, streams and ditches.

In the main the watercourses in the district are kept free from pollution although there are instances of septic tanks discharging direct into the watercourses. Also there are several cases of sink water from houses discharging into a watercourse.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

There are still several septic tanks within the district. Apart from the hamlet of Kings Moss the septic tanks are at isolated farms and cottages.

The Council do not provide a cesspool emptier. The emptying of septic tanks is carried out at the request of householders and the Council hire a tanker for the purpose from a local farmer.

The Council charge householders £2 for the use of the service.

The Council are considering providing a main drainage system for the hamlet of Kings Moss.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Sanitary conveniences for both sexes are situated in Main Street. These are very unsatisfactory in design and construction and no washing facilities are provided. Considerable damage due to vandalism occurs.

It is proposed to replace these conveniences by a modern sanitary block in the near future.

In the Higher End of the district a modern toilet block has been provided. This is situated just within the hospital curtilage and is provided for the use of visitors to the hospital and is also available to the general public.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are four ladies hairdressing establishments within the district and one hairdressing salon for men.

The conditions generally are satisfactory, premises being of modern construction, properly equipped and well maintained.

The Local Authority have not made any By Laws under Section 77 of the Public Health Act 1961 relating to the cleanliness and control of hairdressing establishments.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

Fourteen complaints were received concerning five nuisances. One of the alleged nuisances was from the use of a motor cycle in a private road and two complaints of noise from the keeping of dogs in private houses. Two complaints were received generally of unruly householders.

All the complaints were satisfactorily dealt with informally.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT 1956

This Act imposes on Local Authorities the duty to ensure that suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation is provided for employees of farmers and agricultural holdings.

Three farms were inspected during the year and the accommodation was found to be satisfactory.

CAMPS AND CARAVAN SITES

There are no caravans permanently occupied within the district.

No licences were issued under the Caravan Sites and Controlled Development Act 1960.

CLEAN AIR AND ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

There are no smoke controlled areas within the district.

During the year the Public Health Inspector reported to the Council that the County Borough of Wigan had established a smoke controlled area immediately adjacent to the Urban District on the Easterly side and that the County Borough of St. Helens had established a smoke controlled area adjacent to the Urban District boundary on the Southerly side.

The Council agreed in principle to the establishment of a smoke controlled area and it is hoped at some progress may be made during the ensuing year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

This Act provides for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in Offices, Shops and Railway Premises. It requires the registration of premises either with the Local Authority or H.M. Factory Inspector.

The total number of premises registered with the Local Authority at the end of the year was as follows:-

Offices	8
Retail Shops	17
Catering Establishments	3

The number of persons employed in such premises at the end of the year was 32 males and 67 females.

The total number of inspections made by the Public Health Inspector was 48 including 6 general inspections.

All registered premises have now received at least one general inspection under the Act.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Inspections made under the Factories Act 1961

Premises	No. on Register	Number of	
		Inspections	Written Notices
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	11	5	2
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	6	2	1
TOTAL	19	7	3

Three contraventions of the Act were observed all of which were remedied during the year.

There were no prosecutions instituted under the Act.

OUTWORKERS

One outworker engaged in the manufacture of gloves was registered under Part 3 of the above Act.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER MATERIALS ACT 1951

There are no premises registered or licenced under the above Act within the Urban District.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are no Public Swimming Baths or Pools in the district. There are none provided at any of the schools.

The schools use the Wigan Corporation Public Baths.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades in the district.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses within the district.

SCHOOLS

There are 5 schools within the district. During the year a new school was built for St. Aidans C. of E. Church which is at present being used as a junior school. Further extensions are proposed and ultimately the old school in Main Street will be discontinued.

A new school was also commenced for St. Mary's R.C. Church and ultimately this will replace the existing school.

All schools within the district are provided with a main water supply and water toilets are connected to the public sewer. With the exception of one school a constant supply of hot water is provided to the wash basins.

An inspection of the school kitchens was made during the year and these were generally found to be satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The duty of a Public Health Inspector of safeguarding the purity and wholesomeness of food entails inspecting all premises used for the manufacture, sale and storage of food, the inspection and supervision of vehicles used for the transport of food and the examination and sampling of food for bacteriological and chemical analysis.

Constant inspections are required to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory standards of hygiene.

The general condition of premises continues to improve and there has been extensive modernisation to the older premises.

The standard of personal hygiene was found to be good.

During the year a total of 152 visits and inspections of food premises were made by the Public Health Inspector.

Food Premises

Number of Premises and Types within the District -

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	22
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	2
Meat Shops	6
Bakers and/or Confectioners	1
Fried Fish Shops	2
Shops selling mainly sugared confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	6
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, cafes and similar shops.	20

FOOD HAWKERS

Hawkers of meat, fish and fruit and vegetables are required to be registered under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers Act 1951).

All food hawkers are required to comply with the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

Regular inspection of vehicles and all premises where food stuffs are stored were made during the year.

MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies General Regulations 1959 require all persons carrying on the trade of distributing milk from premises within the district and all premises used as dairies other than dairy farms to be registered with the Local Authority.

The number of distributors registered by the Local Authority and operating from -

- a. Dairies within the district - 4
- b. From shops within the district other than dairies - 10.

MILK (Special Designation) REGULATIONS 1960

These regulations require all dealers other than producers to hold a licence from the Lancashire County Council who are the Food and Drug Authority for the district.

Milk Sampling

The number of milk samples taken by the Public Health Inspector for submission to the statutory tests are as follows:-

- 8 samples submitted to the Methylene Blue Test
- 3 samples submitted to the Turbidity Test
- 2 samples submitted to the Colony Count Test

All samples were found to be satisfactory.

Generally only heat treated milk is sold within the District.

ICE CREAM

Premises used for the sale or manufacture of Ice Cream are registered with the Local Authority under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955.

There is one Ice Cream factory situated within the district. This factory has been maintained under a very satisfactory condition.

There are 18 shops registered for the sale of Ice Cream.

With the exception of the mobile vendors only wrapped ice cream is sold within the district.

Eight samples of ice cream were submitted to the laboratory for the Methylene Blue Test. All samples were reported as grade one. These results are highly satisfactory.

Four ice cream lollies were taken and submitted to the Bacteriologist. On examination the products were found to be free from Coliform bacteria.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are no slaughterhouses within the district.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry slaughtering premises within the district. Several of the farms supply ready-dressed poultry during the festive season.

Four inspections were made of these premises and advice and instruction given with a view to improving the premises and personal hygiene.

HOUSING

Slow but steady progress continues to be made in the improvement of housing conditions within the district. The overall standard is generally very satisfactory.

There were no reports of any serious overcrowding.

Applicants for Council house accommodation are mainly from the newly married couples and there are at present 25 of these applicants on the Council Housing List. In addition there are 18 applicants for old aged pensioners ground floor flats and bungalows.

Progress in the modernisation of older houses continues to be disappointing. A full survey of all pre-war houses is being carried out to ascertain the number of sub-standard houses within the district.

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Number of new dwellings erected during the year

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(i) By the local authority	Nil	Nil
(ii) By other local authorities	Nil	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	166	Nil

TOTAL NUMBER OF DWELLINGS OWNED BY ANY LOCAL AUTHORITY EXISTING AT
END OF YEAR 602

2. Inspections of dwellings during the year

Inspection of Dwellings under the Housing and Public Health Acts

(a) Total number of dwellings inspected formally and informally for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Act)	143
(b) Number of inspections formal or informal made for the purpose.	501
(c) Number of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.	47

Total number of dwellings existing at end of year, occupied or not, which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expence of being rendered fit and in respect of which:-

(a) Demolition, clearance or closing orders have been made (at any time).	20
(b) Demolition, clearance or closing orders have not yet been made.	20

HOUSES DEMOLISHED

In or adjoining Clearance Areas:-

Displaced during year from
houses to be demolished or
closed

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(i) Houses unfit for human habitation	3	Nil	Nil
(ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangements etc.	-	Nil	Nil
(iii) Houses on land aquired under S.43(2), Housing Act, 1957.	-	Nil	Nil

HOUSES DEMOLISHED Cont....

Not in or adjoin , Clearance Areas:-

Displaced during year from
houses to be demolished or
closed

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16 or S.17 Housing Act, 1957	2	Nil	Nil
(v) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.	-	Nil	Nil
(vi) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts.	-	Nil	Nil
(vii) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders.	-	Nil	Nil

UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

(i) Under S.16(4), S.17(1) Housing Act 1957 and S.26 Housing Act 1961	1	Nil	Nil
(ii) Under S.17(3) and S.26 Housing Act 1957.	-	Nil	Nil
(iii) Parts of Buildings closed under S.18 Housing Act 1957	-	Nil	Nil

UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT

	<u>Number</u>
(i) By owner after informal action by local authority	8
(ii) After informal notice under S.9 and S.16 Housing Act 1957	
(a) by owner	-
(b) by local authority	-
(iii) After formal notice under the Public Health Acts.	2
(iv) After modification or revocation of a clearance order under S.21 Housing Act, 1961	-
(v) After determination of a demolition order under S.24 Housing Act 1957	-
(vi) After determination of a closing order under S.27 Housing Act 1961	-

UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE - HOUSING ACT 1957

There are no unfit houses in temporary use under the Housing Act 1957.

PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	<u>Number of Houses</u>	<u>Number of Occupants of houses in Col. (1) (2)</u>
Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders.	Nil	Nil

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES

Housing Act 1949 and Housing
(Financial Provisions) Act 1958
Improvement Grants etc.

	<u>Number of dwellings or other buildings affected in schemes of</u>	
Action during year -	<u>Private bodies or individuals</u>	<u>Local Authority</u>
(i) Applications submitted by private individuals to local authority.	6	-
(ii) Applications approved by local authority.	4	-
(iii) Applications submitted by local authority to Ministry	-	-
(iv) Number finally approved by Ministry	-	-
(v) Work completed.	2	-
(vi) Additional separate dwellings included in (v)	-	-

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959 AND
HOUSING ACTS 1961 and 1964 STANDARD GRANTS

Action during year	<u>Number of dwellings or other buildings affected</u>
(i) Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to (a) Full standard (b) Reduced standard	9 -
(ii) Total applications approved by local authority for improvement (a) Full standard (b) Reduced standard	8 -
(iii) Work completed	9

No action was taken to secure compulsory improvement of dwellings.

Dr. J. McPherson Robertson,
Divisional Medical Officer of Health.

J. R. Swift,
Public Health Inspector.

